Annual Report

2012-2013

SPCW Annual Report

2012-2013

President's Report

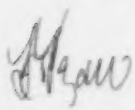
This has been my first year at the helm of the Social Planning Council (SPCW), and it has been both challenging and rewarding. We have continued to find new ways to represent the issues that matter to Winnipeggers, with all the achievements and disappointments social change brings.

A highlight for us has been the relationship we have with activists in the Idle No More movement. Our support has been both public and behind the scenes as the dedicated young people and women involved in the movement have mobilized and organized events.

Our relationship with governments on the other hand has been somewhat limited. We have offered to work with different levels of government, and have been able to collaborate on some important initiatives, but not on all. However, we continue to seek ways for government policies and programs to better serve people living on low incomes.

As an organization we have also improved our governance. We have a strong full Board of Directors with formal representation from business, labour and the Aboriginal community. We also updated our by-laws, policies and operating procedures in the last year.

In the next year we look forward to deepening our relationship with community organizations and continuing to work for positive social change in our community. We remain committed to developing socially just policies, programs, and community solutions on behalf of Winnipeggers.



Leah Gazan

To provide leadership in improving social conditions through effective solutions, progressive public policy, community development and partnerships.

Executive Director's Report

Over the last year, SPCW has collaborated with our partners to address both new and persistent ongoing issues that affect the quality of life for individuals and our neighbourhoods.

Our programing is based on principles that the Board of Directors have defined (see the next page). These Strategic Directions help us determine what we can and will do in the service of the community, out of a broad range of needs.

Winnipeg has a large network of people and organizations that are providing important services to the public, particularly those living in poverty. We are so fortunate to have these dedicated service providers, advocates and volunteers who do so much with so little support.

This year we expanded what we do to help citizens get the services, supports and recognition they deserve from our public services. In some ways, most of our programing involves collaborating with groups that improve the capacity of the service system that allows people to cope with poverty and the difficulties they face in their lives.

However, the SPCW has an obligation to do more than merely maintain the system and its limited services. We need to constantly seek structural changes in our public services or social relations that can create the means and opportunities for everyone to enjoy a safe and healthy quality of life.

The persistence of poverty in Manitoba and the reduction in resources for people living in poverty means that SPCW must and will continue to play a constructive role in our community life.

Dennis Lewycky

Vision

A sustainable community that is caring, just and equitable and which provides opportunities to all for better health and shared prosperity.

SPCW Program Direction

The SPCW is a membership based, non-profit organization with a 94 year history of building the capacity of Winnipeggers to address social issues. Through evidence based advocacy, public education, new programs, and practical collaborations we strive to share the wealth of society. In 2011, the Board of Directors revised the organization's Vision and Mission statements and set out a new set of Strategic Priorities for 2011-2014.

Strategic Priorities

In order to achieve the vision and mission of the organization, the SPCW will be guided by the following strategic priorities for the next three years. The SPCW will:

A. Provide leadership in addressing social issues, through research leading to action that fosters social justice.

> Identify issues, draw on research, stimulate thinking on new ways to address persistent poverty and social exclusion in Winnipeg and then collaborate in action that addresses these issues.

B. Help create understanding of social issues and needs based on education, information and communication related to building community.

> Work to improve the knowledge needed in the community to deal with issues and needs that help all citizens play a meaningful role in their community.

C. Facilitate and mobilize public engagement in addressing social issues leading to improved social justice.

> Collaborate with a cross-section of community people and organizations to mobilize public opinion and demonstrate public interest in issues facing the community.

D. Help increase and fairly distribute the wealth of society, as a basis for a caring, just and inclusive community.

> As a fundamental requirement for community residents, the SPCW will seek to help improve incomes for Winnipeggers and assure that wealth is distributed fairly and equitably.

E. Build on the knowledge, capacity and strengths of citizens in addressing the issues that undermine community and social cohesion.

> A key operational requirement of the strategy is to use and respect the existing human resources available in Winnipeg, in affecting change and social development.

Program Overview

SPCW programing has tended to focus on three main areas of need in our community:

- housing and homelessness,
- services and supports for those in need, and
- income and income assistance.

In the last year we published data on homelessness and continued to draw attention to needs of people without a place to call home. We have also provided process and policy recommendations to assist the City of Winnipeg in the review of its housing policy. We have worked with Right to Housing and The Winnipeg Rental Network to raise public awareness of the need for more affordable rental housing. We know that a safe and healthy home is the basis for individual and family life, and that currently this is not available for a large segment of society.

At a service level, we have been working with social advocates and front line workers to address weaknesses in the Employment and Income Assistance and Winnipeg Transit systems. As part of the Winnipeg Rental Network we have also supported efforts to link prospective renters with landlords and to improve supports for tenants.

One of the primary objectives of SPCW programing is to raise incomes and to fairly distribute society's wealth. Therefore we have collaborated with organizations seeking to raise both social assistance and wages. We have also been monitoring and finding new ways to help the government implement its ALL Aboard Poverty Reduction Strategy.

The SPCW was active this year in a diverse ways that helped raise awareness of social issues, mobilized community action, exposed weaknesses in the delivery of social supports, and proposed ways to address the social needs of Winnipeggers. Throughout our activities, there is a commitment to building the capacity of community organizations to address community issues.

Projects and Results

A. Provide leadership in addressing social issues:
   1. A Youth Homelessness study is looking at systemic and policy barriers facing youth
   2. The provincial Poverty Reduction Strategy Act is being monitored and analyzed
   3. The City of Winnipeg Housing Policy and its consultation was reviewed and challenged
   4. A study of Winnipeg recreational services was started.

B. Help create understanding of social issues:
   5. We respond to news media requests for information and commentary
   6. www.spcw.mb.ca has regular updates on events and issues facing Winnipeggers
   7. Public meetings/events were held on taxation, green space, and child poverty
   8. An innovative social media campaign was launched on poverty and homelessness.

C. Facilitate and mobilize public engagement:
   9. We supported rent supplement increases and EIA reform through Make Poverty History
   10. We helped organize the Transit Riders' Association and a public information forum
   11. Participated in housing, anti-poverty, and EIA coalitions
   12. Explored new ways to improve welfare, housing and neighbourhood planning capacity.

D. Help increase and fairly distribute the wealth of society:
   13. Opened dialogue on income inequality, taxation issues and Provincial and City budgets
   14. Support EIA & EI advocates to focus attention on social assistance improvements
   15. Worked with partners to develop a proposal to study how school divisions support children to reduce the impact of poverty on education
   16. Started to plan a living wage campaign with partner agencies.

E. Build on the knowledge, capacity and strengths of citizens:
   17. Human Rights Code training was conducted for community based organizations
   18. We manage the Community Data Consortium to buy neighbourhood StatsCan data
   19. We assisted in conducting neighbourhood housing plans with Bridgman Collaborative
   20. Support for the Winnipeg Rental Network in bringing tenants and landlords together.

Activities and Products

Documents

- CP Rail yard Re-Development Proposal
- A Place to Call Home: Homelessness in Winnipeg
- Rich and Poor Benefit from Income Equality
- Child and Family Poverty Report Card
- Probe Research Report – City Council Performance
- CBO Demand for Human Rights Code Training Report
- Probe Research Report – Public Opinion of Homelessness.

Guests and Resource People

• Linda McQuaig, journalist and writer	June
• Li Tao, Chinese Agrarian/NGO Activist	July
• Art Eggleton, Senator and Anti-Poverty Advocate	November

Public Events

• Summit on Youth Homelessness	May
• OURs Public Information Events	May/October
• SPCW Annual General Meeting	June
• Tax Fairness Forum	June
• Training Sessions – Human Rights Code	Sept-Dec
• CP Rail – Free Press News Café	August
• Entrepreneurship Training and Trade consultations	Nov./January
• Chamber of Commerce BOLD presentation	February
• City Land Use and Decision Making Forum	March
• Transit Riders Forum	March

Projects

- Homeless Individuals and Families Information System (HRDC funded)
- Bridgeman Collaborative contracts – Neighbourhood Housing Plan (City funded)
- Children's Health and Environment Partnership (Health Canada funded)
- Campaign 2000 to End Child Poverty (funded by small individual donations)
- Human Rights Code CBO Training (Winnipeg Foundation funded)
- System Pathways into Youth Homelessness (Homelessness Partnering Strategy funded)
- Social Media and Poverty Project (Winnipeg Foundation funded)

Collaborations

- Community Data Consortium
- Make Poverty History -Manitoba
- Right to Housing/Red Tent Campaign
- City Watch Network
- Transit Riders Association
- Winnipeg Rental Network
- EIA Advocates Network
- Social Justice Coalition (educators)
- CED Network - Manitoba
- LiveSAFE Integration Advisory Network

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REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT AUDITOR ON THE SUMMARY FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

To the Members of
Social Planning Council of Winnipeg

The accompanying summary financial statements, which comprise the summary statements of financial position as at March 31, 2013, March 31, 2012 and April 1, 2011 and the summary statements of operations and changes in fund balances for the years ended March 31, 2013 and March 31, 2012 are derived from the audited financial statements of Social Planning Council of Winnipeg for the years ended March 31, 2013 and March 31, 2012. We expressed an unmodified audit opinion on those financial statements in our report dated June 13, 2013.

The summary financial statements do not contain all the disclosures required by Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations. Reading the summary financial statements, therefore, is not a substitute for reading the audited financial statements of Social Planning Council of Winnipeg.

Management's Responsibility for the Summary Financial Statements
Management is responsible for the preparation of a summary of the audited financial statements.

Auditor's Responsibility
Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the summary financial statements based on our procedures, which were conducted in accordance with Canadian Auditing Standard (CAS) 810, "Engagements to Report on Summary Financial Statements".

Opinion
In our opinion, the summary financial statements derived from the audited financial statements of Social Planning Council of Winnipeg for the years ended March 31, 2013 and March 31, 2012 are a fair summary of those financial statements in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations.

Deloitte LLP

Chartered Accountants

Winnipeg, Manitoba
June 13, 2013

SOCIAL PLANNING COUNCIL OF WINNIPEG
Summarized Financial Statements
Years ended March 31, 2013 and 2012

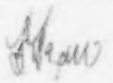
STATEMENTS OF FINANCIAL POSITION

	March 31 2013	March 31 2012	April 1 2011
ASSETS			
CURRENT			
Cash	$ 211,387	$ 218,194	$ 289,750
Accounts receivable	24,626	45,025	31,207
Prepaid expenses	1,477	908	2,299
	$ 237,490	$ 265,026	$ 323,256
LIABILITIES			
CURRENT			
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	$ 24,890	$ 40,439	$ 39,288
Deferred Special Projects revenue	158,275	132,740	177,622
Current portion of deferred rent incentive	2,970	5,970	3,970
	187,144	183,149	210,880
DEFERRED RENT INCENTIVE	5,970	7,940	11,910
	191,114	191,089	222,790
FUND BALANCES			
REVENUE STABILIZATION	60,000	60,000	60,000
TECHNOLOGY REPLACEMENT	8,000	8,000	8,000
RESEARCH	-	-	11,000
UNRESTRICTED (DEFICIT)	(18,624)	6,939	24,578
	46,376	73,939	103,578
	$ 237,490	$ 265,028	$ 325,368

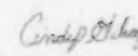
STATEMENTS OF OPERATIONS AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES

	March 31 2013	2012
REVENUE		
Special projects	$ 72,196	$ 224,121
United Way of Winnipeg	307,322	301,300
Affiliation fees	1,540	40
Special funding - donations	69,374	62,700
Other	40,114	31,509
	$ 493,640	$ 619,968
EXPENSES		
Special projects	$ 70,560	$ 174,015
Salaries and wages	314,914	324,493
Office and maintenance	66,812	66,666
Administration	41,173	50,101
Amortization of free rent	(3,970)	(3,970)
	520,508	646,205
DEFICIENCY OF REVENUE OVER EXPENSES FOR THE YEAR	(27,563)	(26,637)
FUND BALANCES BEGINNING OF YEAR	73,939	139,576
FUND TRANSFERS		
RESEARCH	-	(11,000)
UNRESTRICTED	-	11,000
FUND BALANCES END OF YEAR	$ 46,376	$ 73,939

APPROVED BY THE BOARD



..... President



..... Treasurer

A complete set of financial statements and Independent Auditor's Report may be obtained from the Planning Council

Board of Directors

2012-2013

Cindy Gilroy-Price	Sandra Gessler	Glenn Cochrane
Glenn Michalchuk	Talatu Shakpeka	Harold Dyck
Paula Keirstead	Ryan Bruyere	Leah Gazan
Wade Parke	Shahzad Mussadiq	John Harvard
John Silver	Charles Thrift	Tyler Blashko

The 15 members of the Board of Directors met five times over the last year to guide the operations and governance of the organization. The consistently strong participation in meetings and Board activities has led to significant achievements:

- Three new Board members were elected in June and a fourth joined during the year
- The Board updated its Policies, Procedures, By-Laws and Human Resource Manual to improve the Governance capacity of the organization
- The SPCW Poverty Advisory Committee mandate was revised and is undergoing a renewed commitment to supporting the Board
- The Strategic Directions for the organization were reviewed and ratified in January 2013.

SPCW Staffing

The small staff of the SPCW is often working behind the scenes to implement activities and maintain the important administration of the organization.

Over the past year:

- Donna Downie, Office Manager, retired and we miss her support and good humour
- Monique Hoefer, Office Coordinator, left the province for family reasons
- Marianne Cerilli, joined the staff as a Policy and Program Analyst
- Nancy Meadows, Office Coordinator joined the Team also
- Christina Maes Nino, Policy and Program Analyst, has opened up a working relationship with Bridgeman Collaborative Architects.

Administration

The SPCW office is located in the centre of Winnipeg, near the Millennium Library.

- The accounting and financial management system was simplified and reorganized

Students and Volunteers

- Twenty students from the University of Manitoba, Red River College and Robertson College were placed and supported in their field of expertise - Nursing, Social Work, Administration, Community Development, Aboriginal Studies and Creative Communication.
- We continue to have great support by volunteers committed to social justice in Winnipeg. Volunteers have contributed hours of their time attending meetings, providing analysis, researching, organizing the office, and providing administrative assistance.

United Way
Member Agency

Social Planning Council *of* *Winnipeg*

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ISBN: 1-895-752-76-0